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One of the numerous copies of Jowett's Aristotle's Politics had been out fifty-two times—thrice between January 10 and April 5, 1920. These are examples of the use of classic authors, taken at random. Similar facts could be cited about most of the other writings of the Greek and Roman poets, orators, dramatists, and philosophers.

In considering the demand for the Classics, remember that a new, popular novel is called for during a period of a few months, or perhaps a year, while the Classics are read year in and year out. Also, remember that the new novels are often borrowed, read, and returned within the space of two or three days. People who read the classic authors usually read them more deliberately, and keep the books at home for a longer time.

The Classical Club of Philadelphia

The 152nd meeting of The Classical Club of Philadelphia was held on Friday, December 3, with twenty-five members present. Professor Rhys Carpenter, of Bryn Mawr College, read a most interesting paper on Pythagoreanism in Greek Art. Pythagoras was the first scientific mathematician (for the Greeks mathematics meant geometry). Number and numerical operations were visualized and concrete, and number was an inherent property lurking in concrete objects. Pythagoreanism in art, then, means the tendency to ascribe great significance to the presence of certain simple numerical properties and to view number under a geometric form, so that it is most clearly present when it is most concretely embodied under our eyes in material objects. From this definition, Professor Carpenter showed what effect mathematical theory and belief in the efficacy of number had on the actual practices of Greek art, sculpture, and architecture.

B. W. MITCHELL, *Secretary*.

THE WASHINGTON CLASSICAL CLUB

The fall meeting of The Washington Classical Club was held in the parlors of the College Women's Club on the afternoon of November 20. A combination of circumstances had caused the meeting to be postponed a week beyond the usual time and this doubtless tended to reduce the number of members in attendance, but those who were present thoroughly enjoyed the interesting and scholarly paper on Petrarch's Latin epic Africa which was read by Professor Wilfred P. Mustard, of The Johns Hopkins University.

The following officers were elected for the year: President, Miss Mildred Dean, of Central High School; Vice-Presidents, Rev. Henry J. Shandelle, S.J., of Georgetown University, Professor Roy J. Deferrari, of the Catholic University of America, Dr. George S.

Duncan, and Miss Mary Bechtel, of Gunston Hall School; Secretary-Treasurer, Miss Mabel C. Hawes, of Eastern High School; Corresponding Secretary, Professor Charles S. Smith, of George Washington University; additional members of the Executive Committee, Dr. William A. Eckels, Miss Phebe A. I. Howell, and Mr. Ogle R. Singleton. Under such leadership, the Club expects an unusually successful season.

CHARLES S. SMITH, *Corresponding Secretary*.

AD PRIMAN NIVEM

En, nives primae tacito volatu
decidunt caelo radiantque pura
luce crystalli nitidoque solis
lumine rident!

Lana sic splendet niveo colore
sordibus nondum vitiata vici;
lilium casto iubaris lepore
prata serenat.

O nives, colles tegite atque valles
albido velo, tegite et lacertos
arborum nudos, gelidis amictum
promite campis!

Dormit in terris bona spes aristae;
sic, nives, semen foveatis, oro,
candida veste, ut seges inde nobis
aurea surgat.

Noctis illapsae tacitas per horas,
iam, nives, orbi scelerum nefandis
sordibus nigro tunicam parate
immaculatam!

Criminum caeno tenebrosa corda,
O nivis purum Iubar et Creator,
Virginis Proles, tribuas nitere
lumine casto.

Hoc meum votum Domino placere,
qui nivem vestit nitido lepore,
spem colo certam referoque laeto
pectore grates.

CAMPION COLLEGE,
Prairie du Chien, Wis.

A. F. GEYSER, S.J., A.M.